

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF MARYLAND

R U L E S O R D E R

The Supreme Court of Maryland, having on its own initiative proposed an amendment to Rule 16-701 of the Maryland Rules of Procedure; and

This Court having considered the proposed Rule change, together with comments received, at an open meeting, notice of which was posted as prescribed by law, it is this 1st day of March, 2024

ORDERED, by the Supreme Court of Maryland, that amendments to Rule 16-701 be, and they are hereby, adopted in the form attached to this Order; and it is further

ORDERED that the Rule change hereby adopted by this Court shall take effect July 1, 2024 and shall apply to the terms of all current and future members of the Rules Committee whose terms expire on or after June 30, 2024; and it is further

ORDERED that a copy of this Order be posted promptly on the website of the Maryland Judiciary.

/s/ Matthew J. Fader  
Matthew J. Fader

/s/ Shirley M. Watts  
Shirley M. Watts

/s/ Michele D. Hotten  
Michele D. Hotten

/s/ Brynja M. Booth  
Brynja M. Booth

/s/ Jonathan Biran  
Jonathan Biran

/s/ Steven B. Gould  
Steven B. Gould

/s/ Angela M. Eaves  
Angela M. Eaves

Filed: March 1, 2024

/s/ Gregory Hilton  
Clerk  
Supreme Court of Maryland

Pursuant to the Maryland Uniform Electronic Legal  
Materials Act (§§ 10-1601 et seq. of the State  
Government Article) this document is authentic.



Gregory Hilton, Clerk

MARYLAND RULES OF PROCEDURE  
TITLE 16 – GENERAL COURT ADMINISTRATION  
CHAPTER 700 – MISCELLANEOUS JUDICIAL UNITS

AMEND Rule 16-701 by adding language to subsection (d)(1)(D), as follows:

Rule 16-701. RULES COMMITTEE

...

(d) Terms

(1) Generally

Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d)(2) of this Rule, in an Order appointing or reappointing a member of the Rules Committee effective on or after July 1, 2016:

(A) the full term of each member is five years, except that (i) the term of the circuit court clerk is five years or during the incumbency of the individual as a circuit court clerk, whichever is shorter; and (ii) the term of an incumbent judge is five years or during the incumbency of the individual as a judge of the court upon which the individual was serving at the time of appointment, whichever is shorter;

(B) the full terms of the members shall commence on July 1, and, insofar as practicable, the terms shall be staggered;

(C) the term of a member serving a full two- or three-year term on June 30, 2016 shall be extended for an additional period of two years and, subject to subsections (d)(1)(D) and (E) of this Rule, the member may be appointed to a five-year term at the conclusion of the member's extended term;

(D) unless an additional term or terms are approved by the Court in its discretion, a member may not serve more than two consecutive full terms, regardless of the length of either term; and

(E) if a member is initially appointed to fill the unexpired term of a former member, and the remainder of the unexpired term is one year or less, the period of consecutive service also may include the remainder of the term of the former member. A period greater than one year shall be considered a full term for the purpose of determining terms of consecutive service.

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